THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, ir. A study to identify the IAF's most bird hit prone airfields has been done.

(b) Based on the study, depending upon the hazard level, IAF airfields have been placed in three categories for remedial action. The yearly average loss suffered by IAF due to bird strikes in terms of replacement costs is approximately Rs. 50 crores.

(c) Measures have been taken in consultation with Ministries of Urban Development, Agriculture and the concerned State Governments for sanitation of areas around the IAF airfields.

Non-utilisation of ordnance facilities

350 SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Ordnance facilities lie unused" as reported in Statesman dated 24th October, 1994;

(b) if so, whether the additional ordnance facilities in various factories are lying unused;

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Indigenous production of 155 mm ammunition has already been started.

Compensionate appointments for words of employees dying in harness

351. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of applicants, for compassionate appointments of the wards of the employees who died in harness during 1971 but still pending with the Ministry of Defence;

(b) whether it is a fact that in some cases the Government have been delaying the process due to one reason or the other inspite of the applicant persuing the matter continuously;

(c) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to consider the appointment in the lower formations of the Ministry to mitigate the hardships being faced by the affected families?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) None, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

PARAM—9000

352. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINITER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India exhibited its first "PARAM-9000" an open system super computer at "Super Computer 94" air held at Washington recently;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this computer is priced half of the similar type of computer developed by some of the Western countries; and

(c) if so, the respnse of the computer market to this new develop-